

IN ANNUAL COUNCIL.

Ministers and Elders of Colored Presbyterian Church Hold Sessions Here.

Again has Washington shown herself to be the banner city of the country in the matter of hospitable entertainment of distinguished visitors.

The seventh annual council of the colored Presbyterian ministers and elders of the northern and middle states convened Wednesday of last week, at 3:30 o'clock, at the Fifteenth Street Presbyterian Church. The meeting was called to order by Rev. William R. Templeton, of Reading, Pa. The session which followed was devoted to the election of officers for the ensuing year. It resulted as fol-



DR. FRANCIS J. GRIMKE.

lows: President, Rev. R. H. Armstrong, D. D. of Baltimore, Md.; vice-president, Rev. Samuel Johnson, of Oxford, Pa.; secretary, Rev. Horace G. Miller, of New York city, N. Y.; assistant secretary, Rev. John W. Lee, of Philadelphia, Pa.; treasurer, Rev. Matthew Anderson, of Philadelphia, Pa.

Popular services were held Wednesday evening, during which the retiring president, Rev. William R. Templeton, delivered the annual sermon. The address of welcome to the visiting clergymen was made by Prof. Kelly Miller, of Howard University. It was responded to by Rev. Mr. Armstrong.

After devotional exercises Thursday morning at 9:30 o'clock, Rev. John W. Lee, of York, Pa., read a paper on "How to Make a Prayer Meeting a Spiritual Force in the Church." This was discussed at length, and was followed by a paper on "The Eldership—Its Power and Efficiency," by Dr. T. G. Harper, of London, England, one of the secretaries of the Protestant Episcopal Church; Rev. O. M. Waller, of St. Luke's Episcopal Church, this city, and Rev. Gilbert Cummins, of Alexandria, Va., were elected corresponding members and given an opportunity to make addresses.

At Thursday afternoon's session, Mrs. Lottie E. Wilson, of Bay City, Mich., read a paper, "How to Stimulate or Increase the Missionary Spirit in the Church." Rev. Thomas H. Lee, of York, Pa., also read a paper on "Popular Superstition."

Rev. R. H. Armstrong, of Baltimore, delivered an address on "The Secret of Financial Prosperity in the Church," and Rev. Eugene Johnson, of Harrisburg, Pa., followed with a paper on "The Church and Amusements," at the same session.

A reception was tendered the visitors Friday evening in the auditorium of the church. The council came to a close Sunday evening.

The local management of Rev. F. J. Grimke, and the officers of the Fifteenth Street Presbyterian Church was heartily commended by the brethren from abroad, and the beauty of the building was heartily praised.

SOCIAL LIFE IN THE ARMY.

Fort Niobrara, Neb., Special.—Pay day has come at last, many more soldiers were made happy to-day by the receipt of salaries. We get paid sick or well, and nothing is deducted for rainy days. The Regiment had its usual practice march Saturday Oct. 18th. We went into camp and pitched tents in the usual order. Quite a number of the Valentine citizens were

out to visit the garrison to-day, and to see the dress parade. We have a very popular young gentleman in our Post, Mr. J. Simkins, who is the regimental clerk at the headquarters. Mr. Simkins is also very popular among the ladies in town. He goes out horse-back riding most every evening with two ladies, he being the escort for both of them. He is also the Post correspondent for The Progress, the colored paper printed at Omaha, Nebraska. Mr. Simkins is a good writer, and a good thinker, as the position he holds is a very important one. The G. U. O. O. F. meet Thursday evening to make arrangements for their regular meeting. We have no Odd Fellows' hall at this Post, so we will have to meet in Valentine, transportation will be furnished by the Post commander whenever we desire to go down. The K. P. and Masonic lodges will also meet in town. Company M will soon lose another of its popular Sergeants, James Avery, who is in for his discharge. He is from the sunny South, the state of Arkansas. We are very sorry to lose him as he has been with us for about three and a-half years, but the best of friends must part.

Editorial Brieflets.

Parties do only those things that are necessary to insure the perpetuation of their power. The Republican party is in no danger. Therefore, any surrender or material concession to the inhuman and reactionary policies of the Democracy is wholly uncalled for. To sacrifice a single fundamental principle would be the act of a coward or an ingrate—perhaps both.

Some members of both parties say that no advantage can accrue to either by carrying the next House of Representatives. That being true there is no reason why this off-year could not be utilized by the colored voters to "harpoon" a few Congressmen who refused to support the Crumpacker and Irwin bills last winter. Have they explained their failure to do their duty in this direction?

We do not know that it is good form to take note of denominational affiliations of the ministers that have been and are alleged to be potent at the White House, but some argus-eyed individual observes that under Cleveland Bishop Turner had the call; under McKinley Bishop Arnett got close to the president's best ear; and now Bishop Walters carries a key to the executive mansion night-latch. "So runs the world away!"

One John Simmons, of Birmingham, Ala., writes a pathetic letter to the Washington Post, bemoaning the unfavorable attitude of the President toward the handful of "lily-whites" who claim to be the Republican party. The said Simmons is mad because Dr. Washington is consulted about Alabama affairs, and adds that he doesn't believe any State would now endorse Mr. Roosevelt if it was only known how mean the latter treat the poor white people of Alabama. Mr. Simmons' appeal plays havoc with our tender feelings.

A GRAND RACE ADVOCATE.

Editor Colored American: I have read a great number of Negro papers, but the Colored American is the best Negro journal that I have ever seen. It is just what every Negro family should have in their home. I speak proudly of this paper and I wish that I had the opportunity of reading it oftener than I do. I have been reading your paper for several years and am compelled to tell you it is one of the grandest papers that has been published by a Negro journalist. Your paper has been sent to me for several years by my cousin, Prof. W. H. Richards, and I appreciate the favor very highly. I would feel proud if the Negroes in the State of Tennessee could publish a journal on the same broad lines. I trust the Colored American will never die. N. J. L.

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